

Eastern Illinois University  
**The Keep**

---

Letters and Correspondence

Paul Turner Sargent

---

5-9-1938

# Paul to Sam May 9, 1938

Paul Sargent

Follow this and additional works at: [http://thekeep.eiu.edu/paul\\_sargent\\_letters](http://thekeep.eiu.edu/paul_sargent_letters)

---

## Recommended Citation

Sargent, Paul, "Paul to Sam May 9, 1938" (1938). *Letters and Correspondence*. 23.  
[http://thekeep.eiu.edu/paul\\_sargent\\_letters/23](http://thekeep.eiu.edu/paul_sargent_letters/23)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Paul Turner Sargent at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in Letters and Correspondence by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact [tabruns@eiu.edu](mailto:tabruns@eiu.edu).

**P to S May 9, 1938**

**Dear Sam,**

**Lately have had some rain again. Since a month ago when we had too much rain has been dry and lately begun to be needed, lots of clods that would not crumble and gardens that did not grow much. Had showers yesterday and this morning, but more needed.**

**I have labored at times lately on those paint boxes. I haven't yet worked out the problem of the legs to complete satisfaction, but think my first idea in how to fasten them is best I have considered. I have thought of a half dozen different ways of clamping the legs. Everything considered, strength, ease of fastening, this seems to be the best. I thought of using the method used on legs of a card table but could not get one of those clamps to experiment with. The hinge as shown here (elaborate diagram drawn) is an offset hinge with hinge screwed to bottom of box, other end to leg with an extra brass piece on top to brace against side of box to stiffen the leg. Brace is held with brass hook that turns sidewise into notch to fasten or unfasten with thumbscrew inside of box. Bottom drawing shows it unfastened and leg being folded under box. I don't understand how the hinges were made to attach the legs on the box in the Weber catalog I used as a pattern. I could not get enough spread of legs to make box solid on its legs in a wind using these common offset hinges. The box must have special hinges that give more flare when opened. So in order to get sufficient spread of legs had to place legs in these positions. The leg at left front and one on right will fold all right under box but the back one will have to be shifted around corner to fold lengthwise of box. That was the hardest problem to solve since could not get enough spread with back leg on end of box. So the back leg will have to be made to turn on a bolt around the corner to fold as I see it now.**

**I am still in the notion of making a paint box like the idea for one I sent you awhile back, the one that telescopes out. It is even simpler than this one as there would be but one leg to worry about.**

**Farming is pretty well along, corn is being planted. Lately ground was hard to plow from lack of rain. A walking plow is a strange sight now, or even a riding plow with horses. The tractor is the rule now, most of them new ones of the spider leg variety.**

**What luck have you had in finding a picture frame machine?**

**Am sending you the address of the company who sells the metal leaf the cheapest. Order as this bill shows to get kind I am using. Postage be more out there. You may find it out there.**

**I am going to send you before long a book on the whole of picture frame making, like the one I have. It tells all of it in detail and you can have it at least for reference.**

**The leaf you know comes in different shades. I like the "light" the best. One pack is made up of about 20 "books" of perhaps ten sheets of leaf each, so will cover a lot of frames.**

**When you get to the frame making, let me know and I'll give what I have learned about it. I don't use the gesso mixture this man recommends on the frames for a surface. I use plastic paint instead. It does not run, it is always mixed, and I like it better.**

**When here in the studio I have the ground hog scooting along under the sleepers. I never thought one of them would stick around a house like this.**

**Yours truly,  
Paul**